

## Replacement Page 1, 1st Paragraph

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a bag having lateral folds, which bag is made of flexible multi-layer film whose inner layer is fusible, in a configuration where the bag comprises a bottom end that is closed before or after filling with bulk material and a top end with closure device. The bag has lateral folds inserted at both sides between the two bag walls forming the front wall of the bag and the rear wall of the bag, which lateral folds extend from the bottom end to the top end and end at a spacing below the upper edges of the bag walls, wherein the bag walls are fused with the lateral folds and, in the top area of the bag that is free of lateral folds, are mutually fused with one another along their edges, and wherein the upper end areas of the lateral folds are folded over toward one bag wall at a folding line that is oriented in the direction toward the bottom end at a slant inwardly and downwardly, the folded-over end areas are fused at their inner side to the inner side of the neighboring lateral fold half and are closed at the top edges ~~according to the preamble of claim 1.~~

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### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention concerns the problem of a further improvement of the sealing action of the gussets at their upper ends. The invention solves this problem in that the folded-over end areas of the lateral folds at their outer side are areally fused to the neighboring bag wall, an area of the lateral fold halves that adjoins the folded-over end areas of the lateral folds is also areally fused to the neighboring bag wall, and the fused connection includes the edges of the folded-over end areas of the lateral folds ~~by a gusseted bag having the features of claim 1.~~ With regard to further embodiments, reference is being had to claims ~~2 to 4.~~

## **Replacement Page 1, 5th Paragraph**

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Further details and effects result from the following description and the drawing in which two embodiments of the subject matter of the invention are schematically shown in more detail. The drawings show in:

## **Replacement Page 2, 2nd Paragraph**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**

The gusseted bag illustrated in the drawing is comprised of a flexible, multi-layer, at least two-layer, film that is preferably made from thermoplastic material. The inner layer of the film is fusible and is comprised, for example, of a polyolefin such as polyethylene or polypropylene. One or several layers can adjoin outwardly and, depending on the requirements, respectively, can be a metal foil, for example, aluminum foil, and/or a polyester layer that, in turn, is not fusible but has high strength and excellent printability.

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The upper end area 12 of both gussets 3, 4 is folded over along an inwardly and slantedly downwardly extending folding edge or folding line 13 wherein folding can be done toward the front wall 1 or toward the rear wall 2. The folded-over end areas 12 of the gussets 3, 4 have the shape of a right triangle and are connected by fusing to the corresponding half of the gussets 3, 4 facing them, as illustrated in Figs. 2, 4, and 5; this is schematically illustrated by first welding seam 14. Moreover, the folded-over end areas 12 are fused with their outer side to the neighboring bag wall, in the illustrated embodiment to the rear wall 2 of the bag, as schematically illustrated by the second welding seam 15 in Figs. 2, 4, and 5. Moreover, an area 16 of the same-side gusset halves that adjoins the folded-over end areas 12 of the gussets 3, 4 is also areally fused to the neighboring bag wall 2 and forms a third welding seam so that the fused connecting areas (first, second, and third welding seams 14, 15, 16) include the top edges 17 of the folded-over end areas 12 so that the top edges 17 are closed.